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TORONTO

AN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH

BY

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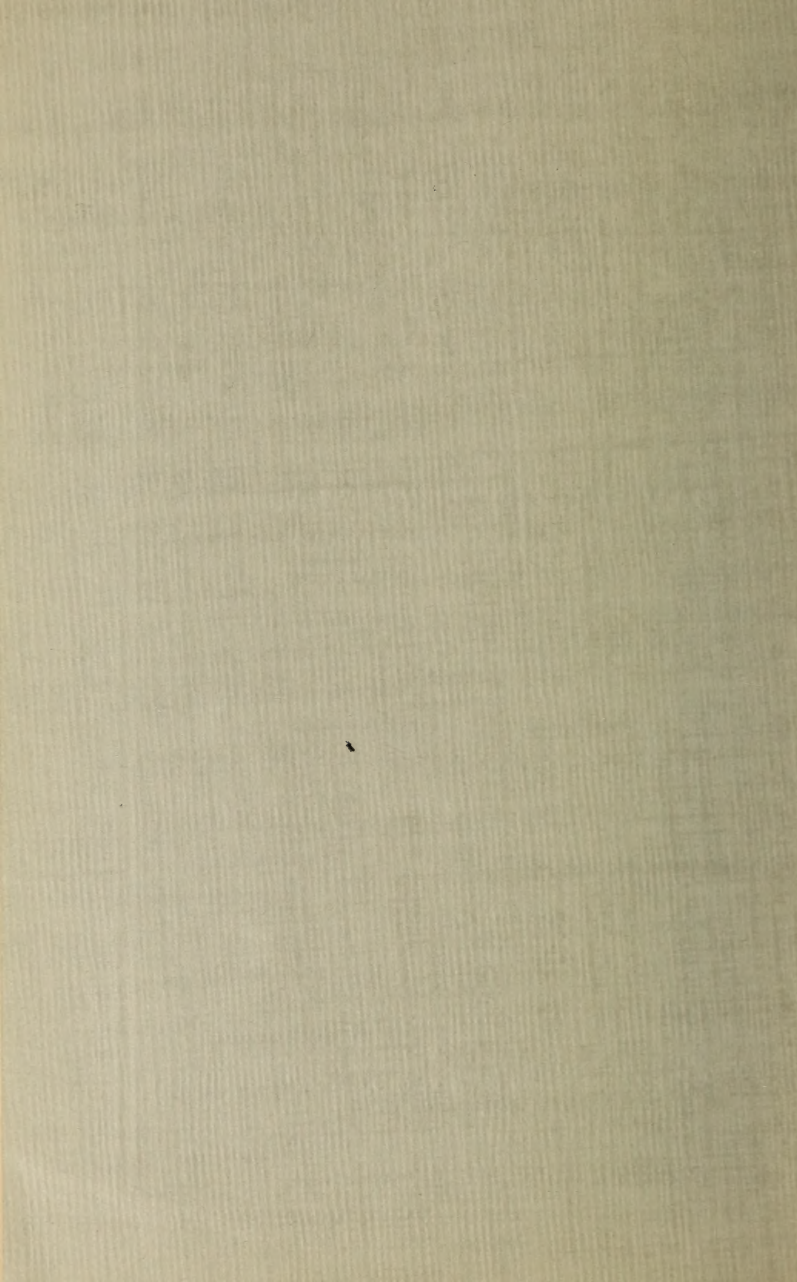
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AN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH.

By

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WHEN that genial and versatile geologist, the late N. S. Shaler, wrote the history of his native State, Kentucky, he drew attention to the peculiar position it held among the American commonwealths. Kentucky alone, he said, is the child of another commonwealth, Virginia, and owes the majority of her early inhabitants to the soldiers disbanded at the close of the American revolutionary war. In the same manner, and almost to the same extent, the first settlers in Upper Canada, as it was then called, were the loyalist soldiers of the British army, and the other U. E. Loyalists whose devotion to a lost cause led them to prefer expatriation to life under a new flag. To make the parallel still more exact, not a few of these sturdy loyalists came from Virginia and founded some of the first families of our province.

The early history of the Jesuit settlements in Ontario, which might find a Kentuckian parallel in tales of "the dark and bloody ground," lie outside our subject, being dealt with by Professor A. F. Chamberlain, the best authority on the Indians of this region, in a special paper. The geological basis for the history of Toronto has also been made the subject of an article by Professor Coleman. In that article it appears that from far distant ages the neighbourhood of Toronto was distinguished as the embouchure of a great river from the Northland, discharging the waters of the vast inland seas of that early era into a lake which was much larger than the present Ontario. Had this river remained to our time Toronto might have been already a second Chicago. But the oldest records say that the site was a well-known Indian trading-post and centre of exchange, one of the most popular etymologies for the name being "a place of meeting," and a place of meetings Toronto has certainly been. Two great trails crossed here, one from the north, the other from the west; and danger and honour have met more than once at the crossing.*

The first reference to Toronto quoted by Dr. Scadding in his delightful volume of "Collections and Recollections," is found in a Memoir on the state of affairs in Canada, transmitted to France in 1686 by the Governor of the day, the Marquis de Denonville.

Referring to preparations for meeting a hostile ad-

* "Send danger from the east unto the west,
So honour cross it from the north to south,
And let them grapple."—*Shakespeare, I Hen. IV, I: iii.*

vance of the English, he writes to the minister de Seignelay: "M. de la Durantaye is collecting people to entrench himself at Michilimaquina and to occupy the other pass which the English may take by Toronto, the other entrance to Lake Huron. In this way our Englishmen will have somebody to speak to. All this cannot be accomplished without considerable expense, but still we must maintain our honour and our prosperity." By the middle of the next century (A.D. 1749) a stockade was erected and a trading post established at Toronto. This measure was intended to cut off the Indian trade from the English post which had been established at Oswego, or Choueguen, as it was then called. The new French fort was named Fort Rouillé, after the Colonial minister, and was visited soon after its foundation by the famous "apostle of the Iroquois," the Abbé Picquet. He found the bread and wine good, an opinion which subsequent French visitors have not always shared, but doubted the wisdom of establishing a rival to the trading posts at Forts Frontenac and Niagara. The 1756 destruction of Oswego at the beginning of the Seven Years' War seems to have led to the abandoning of the new trading post, although the name continues to appear occasionally in dispatches. "The Journals of Major Robert Rogers," which were published in London, A.D. 1765, give an account of the visit he paid to Toronto in September, 1760, in the course of an expedition to take possession of Detroit. After describing the joyful reception and the impor-

tant information which the Indians gave him, he continues: "I think Toronto a most convenient place for a factory, and that from thence we may very easily settle the north side of Lake Erie."

It is interesting to note an observation of Sir Wm. Johnson made in 1767: "I have heard traders of long experience and good circumstances affirm that for the exclusive trade of that place (Toronto), for one season, they would willingly pay £1,000—so certain were they of a quiet market—from the cheapness at which they could afford their goods there." In its early acceptance the name Toronto was applied to all the district lying north as far as Lake Simcoe, and it was also used for that lake on eighteenth century maps.

During the revolutionary war it was happy in having no history, but at the conclusion of the conflict the influx of U. E. Loyalists began. Major-General Simcoe, who had fought under Lord Cornwallis, was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the new province of Upper Canada, created under the constitutional act of 1791.

Under his administration Toronto was first laid out on its present site by Surveyor-General Bouchette. At this date also, Yonge Street was planned as a road to the Georgian Bay and named after Sir George Yonge, then Secretary of War. The town itself was christened York in honour of the soldier-son of George III.

The plan of the future capital was drawn in that rectangular form which the military engineers of the Romans impressed on the conquered provinces of Europe, and of which the city of Chester is an interesting survival. However suitable for the camp of a Roman legion, or for the compact walled cities which grew out of such camps, this rectangular mode of laying out streets has proved far from practical for the widely extended cities on the American continent, where land is plenty and wars are rare. Professor Shaler had a theory that the Roman empire fell because of the economic waste due to the vast cost of the Roman roads. It is highly probable that the yearly loss due to the Roman system of laying out cities would build any road in the Roman empire. Few cities show this fault in so marked a degree as Toronto. In its growth from the tiny rectangle enclosed by George, Duke, Berkeley and Palace (now Front) Streets, about an eighth of a square mile in extent, to its present area of over thirty-two square miles, there has been hardly any variation in the rigid angularity of its outlines. Neither hill nor dale, creek nor river, bluff nor ravine has been allowed to deflect the monotonous straight lines of its streets. This is the more surprising since the few exceptions which help to prove the rule are so striking. The fine vista effects of the City Hall at the head of Bay Street, Osgoode Hall at the head of York, and the Parliament Buildings facing the Queen's Avenue were as barren of influence on the

minds of our town-planners as the meandering ways of Rosedale.

We cannot blame the first builders of the city for neglecting the aesthetic. Ample provision was made for the parks and squares of the future city. The original Parliament Buildings were constructed on the shore to the south-east of the little capital, and the road along the shore to the Old Fort at the western entrance to the harbour, while as straight as Appius or Agrippa could have desired, was bordered by groves of oak, and in the early prints suggests a scene of sylvan beauty. By some the name Toronto is said to mean "oaks by the water." If so it ceased to be appropriate with the coming of the railways in the "fifties."

Long before that date York had received its baptism of fire and blood. The war of 1812 was due in great part to the bad feeling that had remained in the South and West, particularly Kentucky, since the Indian wars. This feeling was intensified by the massacre of Frenchtown, or Raisin River, in January, 1813, when several hundred Kentuckian prisoners were killed by the Indian allies of General Proctor. In the following April a large force, under General Pike, of New Jersey, attacked York, which then contained about five hundred inhabitants and a somewhat larger garrison. In the defence of the fort a terrible accident occurred which has been described as follows by an eyewitness: "A gun was aimed at one of the vessels, and the officers, desirous

of seeing if the ball would take effect, ascended the bastion. In the meantime the artilleryman, waiting the word of command to fire, held the match behind him, as is usual in such circumstances; and the travelling magazine, a large wooden chest, containing cartridges for the great guns, being open just at his back, he unfortunately put his match into it, and the consequence was dreadful indeed. Every man in the battery was blown into the air. The officers were thrown from the bastion by the shock, but escaped with a few bruises; the cannon were dismounted, and the battery was rendered completely useless. I was standing at the gate of the garrison when the poor soldiers who escaped the explosion with a little life remaining were brought into the hospital, and a more afflicting sight could scarcely be witnessed."

The American general, Pike, was killed by the explosion, as well as a large number of his men, and on the capture of the town the Parliament Buildings were burned. It was partly in reprisal for this act that the British forces destroyed the Government Buildings at Washington some months later, when General Ross captured that city. That New England was opposed to the war the Hartford Convention clearly showed. While thus tending to separate the Union it did much to consolidate the Provinces, for the French were quite as vigorous in their defence as the Loyalists of the Upper Province. There can be no doubt that the success with which the Canadians repelled the invader was mainly owing to the

military character of the early settlers, to which reference has already been made.

Among the first inhabitants of York were many half-pay officers of both the army and navy, including several surgeons. The social predominance which naturally fell to their share led to a political leadership that culminated in the "family compact." By one of the little ironies of history the seat of this cabal was the "Grange," afterwards the home of Professor Goldwin Smith. It was built by Mr. D'Arcy Boulton, in the outskirts of the town. Dr. Smith was fond of telling how Justice Boulton's two carriage horses, *Bonaparte* and *Jefferson*, had once attacked a bear in their pasture before the "Grange." The house stands in beautiful grounds at the head of John Street and was bequeathed with Professor Smith's collection of historical portraits to the city.

The military governors—Sir Peregrine Maitland, who had eloped with the daughter of the Duke of Richmond after the famous Waterloo ball, and Sir John Colborne, who founded Upper Canada College in 1829—were both supporters of the oligarchy. But it was Sir Francis Head, "the tried reformer," under whose rule the discontent of the reformers led by
 1837 William Lyon Mackenzie came to an outbreak.
 Toronto, which had resumed its old name on its
 1834 incorporation as a city three years before, again
 approved its loyalty, and the rising was put down.
 1839 But the defeat of the reformers was to result in the
 triumph of reform. The Earl of Durham, who suc-

ceeded Head, sent in his famous report, which is said to have been written by Charles Buller, his secretary, the friend of Tennyson and the pupil of Carlyle. To this we owe the establishment of responsible government and the abolition of abuses. As a result 1846
Toronto, now one of the capitals of a united Canada, made rapid advances, and though its prosperity was temporarily checked by the adoption of free trade in England, it received an added impetus by Lord Elgin's Reciprocity Treaty with the United States.

During these years the growth of both city and province had been slow but steady. The early settlers came mostly from the south, including the "Pennsylvania Dutch," of whom a number took up land to the north and east of Toronto, in the neighbourhood of Markham. After the war of 1812-13 this influx ceased, and the new settlers came from the British Isles, especially Scotland and the north of Ireland. To this day Toronto is the greatest Orange centre except Belfast. After the famine the Irish came in great numbers and suffered terribly from the ravages of the fever and the cholera epidemics which raged in 1847 and 1854. The Roman Catholic Bishop Power, after whom Power Street is named, sacrificed his life in the former year while ministering to these unfortunates.

The first Toronto "boom" broke after the Crimean War in 1857. The opening of the Northern, Grand Trunk and Great Western Railways had facilitated transportation, stimulated commerce and en-

couraged immigration. The war had raised the value of all agricultural products, and the price of land on Yonge Street advanced to figures that would seem small now but were thought extravagant by the prudent of that day. The gold fever in Australia and British Columbia had fired the imagination and helped to bring about this era of speculation. It was not long before the Civil War in the United States once more gave an impulse to trade in Canada, soon lessened, however, by the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. During the war a number of Southerners took up their abode here, making their rendezvous in the Caer Howell Hotel on the Queen's Avenue. The excellent schools and colleges had already begun to attract students from both North and South.

The provincial school system had been modelled after those of Ireland and of Prussia by the Superintendent of Education, Dr. Ryerson. Upper Canada College, the Eton of Canada, had been brought to a high state of efficiency under Principal George R. R. Cockburn. The University, founded as King's College in 1842, had been freed from the control of the Church of England in 1850, and was in other ways keeping pace with the spirit of the age. Bishop Strachan, who had been President of the University, although now over seventy, had collected the endowment of a new Anglican institution, Trinity College. The Presbyterians had also their theological school, Knox College, which after many moves and more than a half-century in affiliation with the Uni-

versity of Toronto, is now (1913) erecting what will probably be its permanent home on the west side of the University lawn. St. Michael's College was founded by the Basilian Fathers from Annenay, France, in 1852, and affiliated with the University of Toronto in 1881. It occupies a pleasant site to the east of the Queen's Park, on St. Joseph Street. Another Anglican school of divinity, now called Wycliffe College, was established in 1877 and is located on Hoskin Avenue, north-west of University College.

The rise of the historical method and the growth of modern science rendered an increase in libraries and laboratories an imperative necessity if higher education in Ontario was to keep abreast of the age. Confederation was the result, and the University now includes four Arts colleges within its system, in addition to a number of affiliated institutions less closely connected with it. University College represents the original foundation and is still maintained by the state, Victoria (Methodist) federated and removed from Cobourg to Toronto in 1892, Trinity followed in 1904, and St. Michael's in 1910. This wise policy, aided by the enlightened support of the government, the upward trend of the school system, and the desire for learning characteristic of the Canadians has made the University one of the largest on the continent and the best attended in the British Empire.* Its various faculties of Arts, Law, Medicine

* Exclusive of India.

and Applied Science had last year 4,136 students and 432 members on the teaching staff.

This wonderful advance in the field of higher education, appealing as it will to the scientific reader, may be taken as typical of the material growth of the city. That growth has been largely the result of the policy of protection brought in under Sir John A. Macdonald in 1878, which gave an immense impetus to manufacturing in Toronto. In 1881 the population was 82,000, and in 1891 it had grown to 181,000. Germany itself could scarcely show more rapid progress. Would that Toronto had followed the German system of extension and town planning! With the wastefulness characteristic of the American continent, an area almost as large as that of Paris was paved and drained. The natural result followed, and during the next ten years the city only grew to 208,000, the boom having burst early in the decade.

With the turn of the century came a change. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's epigram that the twentieth century was to be Canada's seems to have won favour "there where the will and the power are one." A series of events brought Canada into the public eye. The British preference did as much for the increase of British immigration as it did for British trade. At the same time the tide of American immigrants flowed across from the Western States in constantly increasing volume. From the European continent, too, a flood of foreigners entered the Dominion, which has thus become the scene of a new "Wandering of

the Nations," of a more peaceful character than that which helped to destroy the Roman empire. This movement has come not to destroy but to fulfil the destiny of Canada as the melting-pot of nations and the solvent of Anglo-Saxondom. At the May Day 1913 meeting of United Workers of Toronto speeches were given in Polish, Bulgarian, Finnish, Yiddish, and Italian, as well as English, advocating education and favouring peace. It is reassuring to know that the dominating proportion of the population of the Dominion, 54 per cent. in 1911, is still of British origin. The English gained 562,000, or 44.5 per cent., from 1901 to 1911, the French 406,000, or 24.5 per cent., the Germans 82,000, or 26 per cent. The Irish population increased 62,000 to 1,050,000, and the Scottish 198,000 to 998,000. The only other Europeans making six-figure records in Canada are Austro-Hungarians, 129,000, and Scandinavians, 107,000. Both the Indian and Negro records are decreasing. The total population was 5,371,315 in 1901, and 7,206,634 in 1911, a gain of 1,835,328, or 34 per cent.

In this advance Toronto more than held its own. According to the census of 1911 the population was 376,240, and the official estimate (June 5th, 1913) is 488,000. Territorially the city extends about ten miles from east to west along the lake front, and by the recent addition of North Toronto its northern and southern limits lie almost equally far apart.

During the first decade of the new century Toronto's progress has been phenomenal. It has also been all-embracing. Millionaire manufacturers, successful merchants, retired farmers, half-pay officers, English gentlemen, Italian navvies, Polish push-cart vendors, Greek bootblacks, and such a polyglot horde from the Balkans that three thousand are said to have left for the seat of war last year—all these and many more have come to spend or gain a fortune in Toronto. After having been for a generation a miniature Belfast, with a tincture of Edinburgh and a tinge of Glasgow, Toronto bids fair to become a Canadian Chicago with an unassimilated foreign element that is both a burden and an incentive to the charitable organizations of the city.

Nowhere is this change so apparent as in the district known for half a century as the "ward," and bounded by Queen, Yonge, College, and the Avenue. In the early days of Queen Victoria's reign the late Chief Justice Macaulay used to walk across the fields from his residence near the present site of the Bishop Strachan School to the Court in Osgoode Hall. Fifty years ago it was quite built up and peopled almost entirely by North of Ireland immigrants, mostly members of the Orange order, and well represented in the City Council by the late Mayor Warring Kennedy and on the School Board by Mr. Frank Somers. At the present time the "ward" still retains at its diagonally opposite angles, N.E. and S.W., the relics of the munificence of the earliest landowners in the

open spaces of Osgoode Hall, presented as a gift to the Law Society by Sir John Robinson, and Wykham Hall, formerly the residence of Sir James Macaulay, and now the seat of the Bishop Strachan School. At the opposite corners of the other diagonal, S.E. and N.W., the energy and generosity of the North of Ireland still find fitting representatives. The one contains the immense establishment—stores, factories, stables and garages—of the T. Eaton Company, unsurpassed as an example of rapid commercial success. The firm in its building operations seems to be executing an echelon movement by squares to reach the opposite north-western angle of the “ward.” Here the splendidly-equipped surgical wing of the new General Hospital bears witness to the generosity of Mr. J. C. Eaton, the present head of the Company.

Within the central space between these points lies closely congested the greater part of Toronto’s foreign population. Six synagogues and half a dozen foreign missions indicate the cosmopolitan character which the “ward” has now assumed and the efforts which are being made to assimilate and Canadianize its new denizens. To the lover of the picturesque and the cosmopolitan a walk through this region is an unfailing source of delight. The eye of the pessimist sees “slums” writ large over the district. The optimist rejoices in the sight of this teeming life, so eager to reproduce itself, so hopeful of the outlook in this land of magnificent opportunities, so confident of gaining, not only a comfortable livelihood, but an

assured competence by the growth of the nation's wealth. One hears of push-cart men becoming semi-millionaires within a few years, and the stimulus of such tales is not lost in the telling. In Toronto, as in New York (Borough of Manhattan), the downtown landowners are mostly corporations or Jews.

But, typical as it is in many respects, the "ward" is not all of Toronto. The backbone of the city's population, its pith and marrow, are still Canadian. And as Canadians their interests are chiefly in the home life. A drive in a tally-ho, a view from the tower of the University or of the City Hall will convince the visitor of this fact. Few, if any, of the cities of America, certainly none in Europe, can show so many miles of comfortable and even commodious dwelling-houses in proportion to the population. But here, too, conditions are changing. Seven years ago there were only three apartment houses in the city. Now they number 300. With the great increase in land values, the decrease in the supply of domestics, and the lowness of the Ontario birthrate, such substitutes for the true home are sure to be multiplied. Hitherto they seem to have had no effect in diminishing the rapidity of the city's territorial growth.

That growth has been guided to some extent by the geological conditions. The successive hill-plateaus which mark the earlier shore-lines of Lake Ontario formed boundaries to the north, and so the city till quite recently expanded east and west along the lake front till it extended from the Humber Bay

and River on the west to Scarborough Beach on the east, taking in the Harbour and Ashbridge's Bay, and thus having nearly twenty miles of coast-line within the city limits, owing to the semicircular form of the Island and the double coast at Simcoe Park. But when the electric trolley climbed the bluff known to geologists as the "Iroquois shore," less than three miles north of the bay, the development of this lofty and healthy district began, and within three years it has become the most fashionable part of the city. Land which cost eighteen dollars a foot ten years ago is now held at \$175, and hundreds of acres have changed hands at even greater advances than this. The average value of the houses on the Avenue Road hill ranges from \$12,000 to \$15,000. This is without taking into account the mansions which line the hill and dominate the city with an unsurpassed distinction of site and variety of type. The old English hall, the Norman-French chateau, the Italianate mansion, and the mediaeval castle are all to be found, and so spacious are the grounds surrounding them that there is no sense of incongruity produced by the different styles. The castle of Sir Henry Pellatt, at the head of Walmer Road, with its adjacent stables and gardens, will form when completed one of the most magnificent residences on the continent.

Proud as Torontonians may well be to see such splendid dwellings rising in the city, and to know that they represent in concrete form the result of the business energy, acumen and executive skill of some of

their fellow-citizens, there is even greater cause for pride in the general diffusion of a comfortable competence that is evident in every quarter and along every car line in the city.

Nowhere is it more in evidence than on Toronto's unique summer resort, "the Island." Years ago Charles Dudley Warner called it our *Lido*, but both the Lido and the Island have been altered much since then. The former shows by its vast caravanserais and monotonous rows of wooden bathing-houses that it has become a summer resort for thousands of European and American tourists; the latter has become the holiday home of the multitude of citizens whose business or whose tastes keep them in town during the summer. Families of all degrees of wealth and social standing pass their vacations here, and in consequence there is much greater diversity of character in the residences than on the Lido. There is no tramway, however, as at Venice, but the geologist is sure to be a walker and will find much to interest him in a visit to this silting spit of land which by creating its future harbour determined the site of Toronto. Hanlan's Point, on the west, is the popular resort, with its baseball grounds, its outdoor entertainments, its aquatic sports and its air of a perpetual kermesse. A few minutes' walk to the south and we come to the older cottages dating from the eighties, when the "mania for summer-outings" first struck Toronto. Goldoni called it a mania; to us of the twentieth century it is the highest wisdom.

It was a professor of mathematics who led the way, and certainly there is no better place to study hydrodynamics in its relation to geography. At the southern extremity of this row of cottages stands the Lakeside Summer Home for Sick Children, the gift of Mr. John Ross Robertson, who also built the Hospital for Sick Children on College Street, the most appealing of Toronto's many charitable institutions. Few sights are so touching as the annual moving in May of the little patients and their nurses from the city to the Lakeside Home. Turning to the left, we pass the lighthouse which for years has guarded this point and is the one building that knew the Island as a peninsula. For it was not till 1853 that the Eastern Gap, now the ordinary entrance for vessels from the south and east, was broken through in a violent storm. Beyond the lighthouse are the pumping station and filtering basin of the water-works, and in the offing we see the bell-buoy which marks the end of the intake pipe and whose mournful note suggests recollections of water famines and disinfected microbes, now happily matters of ancient history. A pretty little church hard by is used by different denominations in turn, recalling the fact that Church Union has made more progress in Canada than elsewhere and that there is a good prospect of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches uniting within the coming decade. On May 22, 1913, an Anglican Church Unity Society was organized in Toronto. As we go east little road-

ways run north from the main plank walk towards the inner lagoon, giving charming glimpses of a truly Venetian combination of canals and streets. One of these cross roads leads to Centre Island Park, famed for family picnics and amateur baseball matches. East of this, on the northern or harbour shore of the Island, are the grounds and clubhouse of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club, the scene of many delightful social functions.

Toronto first became celebrated as the home of the world's champion rower, E. J. Hanlan, and its supremacy in aquatic sports has been well maintained. O'Connor and Lou Scholes were also world champions, the latter winning the Diamond Sculls at Henley in 1904. His brother John had previously won the amateur light-weight boxing championship of England and America, a combination of honours not likely to be repeated in one family. Goulding, the champion walker of the world, and G. S. Lyon, the champion amateur golfer of America at the St. Louis Exhibition, are also Torontonians. Athletics are extremely popular. Thousands take part in both summer and winter sports, for which the climate usually gives ample opportunity. Although lacrosse is the national game, hockey is the favourite in winter and baseball in summer. The cool and beautiful location of the ball grounds at Hanlan's Point helps to swell the attendance, which sometimes reaches twenty thousand. Toronto has seldom experienced more dramatic moments than when the Upper

Canada College hockey team won the junior championship of Ontario in the last minute of the second extra ten, or when the Toronto team won the baseball pennant from Newark in the tenth inning of the last match of the season.

Clean, manly sport in Toronto owes much to the Young Men's Christian Association. This body showed its hold on the citizens by collecting over \$600,000 in a two weeks' whirlwind campaign in 1910. The new main building is on College Street, near Yonge, and deserves the inspection of all who are interested in the training of young men. There are several branches throughout the city and a separate organization for young women, as well as a number of settlements, one of which is under the special charge of the University students.

The above forms of Christian activity may be called the resultant moraines of the churches for which Toronto is famous. It is the seat of a Roman Catholic archbishop and of an Anglican bishop, and the Canadian centre of the other chief Protestant denominations. One picturesque local society, which would have interested such travellers as Hepworth Dixon or Bayard Taylor, and which we read of in Dr. Scadding's "Toronto of Old," seems not to have survived its founder, David Wilson, of Sharon, after whom the members were called "Davidites," "Wilsonites," or "Sharonites." Their Temple, built in 1825, twenty years before the first Mormon one at Nauvoo, Ill., was of quaint construction and curious

rites, and "resembled a high-piled house of cards." Sharon was some distance north of the city, but the leader used to drive into town periodically with his seraphic band, and treat the citizens to a procession of the "Children of Peace," followed by a sermon on the depravity of public affairs. By virtue of their name let them live in David's record "one day more," recalling, like the tufa hills in the Hackensack Valley, an outburst of long-forgotten fervour.

The archiepiscopal church of St. Michael has been compared to York Minster, and has stained glass windows that came from Munich, although they do not equal those in the Frauenkirche. Among the Anglican places of worship the most notable are the mother church of St. James, whose spire (316 feet) was for years the highest on the continent, the cathedral of St. Albans in process of erection, and Archdeacon Cody's beautiful new Gothic church of St. Paul's, the third enlargement (a definitive edition, let us hope) of that "house of prayer" since 1900. The Metropolitan Methodist Church is beautifully placed in Magill Square on Queen Street East, and has one of the largest organs in America. This imposing pile has the distinction of having set the fashion for large and handsome churches in Toronto, and is itself due to the good taste of the late Rev. William Morley Punshon, afterwards President of the Wesleyan body in England. Many other beautiful and

spacious church edifices adorn the city, which is as renowned for its congregations and preachers as for its churches.

To the archaeologist and the lover of local history the most interesting fane in Toronto is the "Holy Trinity," overshadowed, like its namesake in New York, by the stupendous erections of modern commercialism. For here, in the parish rectory on the little square, lived and wrought and wrote the late Dr. Henry Scadding, author of "Toronto of Old," and one of the most reverend figures in the early history of the city. In this place, too, worshipped the Earl of Elgin, coming from his governmental residence in Elmsley Villa, afterwards the seat of Knox College, and now the site of the Central Presbyterian Church. Another name connected with Holy Trinity is that of Bishop Selwyn, of New Zealand, the famous missionary, whose preaching in the church, as well as that of Scoresby, the Arctic navigator, Dr. Scadding duly records.* Its own perpetuation as a down-town mission is ensured by the bequest of its founders, two English sisters. Little did these ladies, or the rector who chronicled their pious gift, imagine that before another generation had passed the sylvan parish church which they remembered would be surrounded, like a boulder at

1846

* Half a century before, General Simcoe, the founder of Toronto, had set up the tent of Captain Cook, the circumnavigator and explorer of Polynesia, near the foot of John Street as his summer residence.

the bottom of a pothole, by the advancing icecap of a new commercial age.*

The Peabody of "Little York" was Jesse Ketchum, a Buffalo tanner whose memory should serve as a bond between these sister cities so nearly akin in all but nationality. He owned the land between Yonge, Adelaide (then Newgate), Bay and Queen (then Lot) Streets, and supplied sites for eight or ten churches and other religious edifices within this district. All are now gone—the last to be removed being Knox Church from Queen Street West to its present beautiful building on Spadina Avenue. The failure to secure the former site and the rest of the block as a Court Square was one of the most extraordinary oversights in town-planning that even Toronto can show. Opposite to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on King Street West another opportunity was lost. Here three squares were public property and were largely free from buildings. A site for a Court of Honour like that which Cleveland is spending millions to acquire lay ready to hand and might have been secured for a few hundred thousands. But Jesse Ketchum died in 1867 and his example has been followed by few of Toronto's wealthy citizens. A Guild of Civic Art exists, and, with the aid of one public-spirited alderman, has made a start in restoring the old lake-side

* A boulder of the drift, lifting itself up through the natural turf, served as a desk for the recording clerk of the first Parliament of Upper Canada.—Scadding, "Toronto of Old," p. 29.

drive and promenade which was planned by Simcoe and which might be made as beautiful as the English garden at Geneva. When the plans of the Harbour Commission have been carried out Toronto will have achieved its destiny and secured the most beautiful and most valuable lakefront in America. And as the Duke of Brunswick gave a model theatre to the Swiss city of his adoption, so a native Torontonion has built the Alexandra Theatre in addition to starting the subscription for the new hospital. The Carnegie Library on St. George and College Streets is as perfect a model in its way as St. Andrew *in partibus* himself. The reading-room is unexcelled. The collection of paintings and sketches and photographs to illustrate the early history of Toronto is in the eastern gallery of the building, and is a permanent monument to the historic *flair*, the civic patriotism and public-spirited munificence of Mr. John Ross Robertson. It is also the best appendix to the present article, every page of which is indebted to Robertson's "Landmarks of Toronto" (5 vols. Toronto, 1894-1908).

The Public Library is also the centre for the exhibitions of the Canadian Academy of Art, the Ontario Society of Artists, and the Art Club. Literature is united with art in the work of the Arts and Letters Club, the Round Table, and the Strolling Players, the last being rather social than scientific. Among purely social clubs the old-established downtown Toronto Club, on the corner of York and Wel-

lington, and the new up-town York Club, on the corner of Bloor and St. George, are recognized as pre-eminent. The Albany, the Reform and the National have political leanings, although the last has lost much of its original significance. The Canadian and Empire are luncheon clubs, meeting weekly and listening to addresses from distinguished men, usually strangers, on topics of the hour. They indicate the growing intellectual interests of the community and the rising tide of Canadian sentiment. The most interesting historically of these luncheon clubs is the U. E. L. Association, the descendants of the United Empire Loyalists, who meet annually to celebrate the coming of their ancestors to Canada. Scientific subjects are dealt with by the Royal Astronomical Society, the Folklore Society, the Canadian Historical Society, and the Canadian Institute. The Institute has a home of its own on College Street, south of the University Chemistry building, with a good scientific reading-room and the best collection of Transactions of learned societies in Canada. It was founded as an engineering and scientific club in the year 1851, and its own publications illustrate in a very interesting manner the changes and developments in the methods of research during the last two generations.

But though often called the city of colleges, the interests of Toronto are essentially commercial and manufacturing. Even here, however, the printing and publishing trade holds a record. Toronto is said to be the fifth city on the continent in this line, being surpassed only by New York, Boston, Chicago and

Philadelphia. Leading English firms like the Macmillans print Toronto on their title pages in addition to London and New York. The largest manufactured output is in agricultural implements, liquors, hardware, musical instruments and ready-made clothing. The Hydro-Electric and Niagara Power companies supply the motive force for hundreds of factories, and new inventions are constantly adding to the number. There are more than 24,000 automobiles licensed in Ontario, and three-fifths of them are said to be in Toronto, giving an average of one to every sixth or seventh family. The retail trade is not less flourishing, and while a couple of great departmental stores would seem to the onlookers to get the bulk of this business, there is evidence in the tasteful and even luxurious appointments of many shops that large profits are being made elsewhere. The jewellers in particular are noted for their beautiful stores, and, as in the case of the churches, the taste of one man set the fashion for the rest. Diamonds are imported free, but other goods paid a duty of \$775,000 last year, which probably indicates a business of \$10,000,000, wholesale and retail.

From the macrocosm of the city we pass to the microcosm of the university. Here the meetings of the International Geological Congress will be held, so a brief account of the buildings will be of interest. The original King's College was on the site of the present Parliament Buildings in the Queen's Park. But in 1850 the institution was secularized, the name changed, and the system of administration altered to

that of the University of London. The University thus became merely an examining body. The teaching of the Arts faculty was handed over to a new foundation known as "University College," which became "the vital centre of the University."* For this new college the beautiful Norman-Gothic building was constructed which is still its pride and its home. On St. Valentine's Day in 1890 a fire destroyed the eastern half of the stately pile, which contained the Library and the Convocation Hall. As in the case of the rare Arabian bird, this loss, apparently irreparable at the time, proved ultimately a gain, and the opening of a new era of expansion in the history of the University. Toronto for once sympathized, Quebec sent ten thousand dollars, and the Ontario Legislature passed an Act the next day providing for the restoration of the building in a manner more suitable to the enlarged classes which had begun to crowd its halls. The generosity of individual citizens supplied funds for a new library, to which came contributions in books from all parts of the world. Germany alone sent seven thousand volumes. The building is on the east side of the lawn. To the south-west rises the new Convocation Hall, due in part to the gifts of the alumni. The inner hall has admirable acoustic properties, and contains an organ, made by Casavant, of Quebec, in perfect keeping with its surroundings. Other University buildings around the lawn are the Medical, with its Palladian

* Chancellor Burwash, "The University of Toronto and its Colleges," p. 39.

towers, and the Biological, to the south of the Library; the School of Practical Science built of red brick, and the Thermo-dynamic building with its tall double chimney, to the south of the lawn; and the splendidly equipped Physics and Chemistry buildings, south of the Convocation Hall. On the corner of College Street is the department of Mineralogy and Geology in a building worthy of the important part which these sciences have borne, and are destined to bear in the development of Toronto, Ontario and the Dominion. Between the Mineralogy and the Thermo-dynamics buildings is the practical laboratory for mining and assaying. Farther east is the bureau of the Students' Y.M.C.A., soon to be removed to the magnificent Hart Hall now in course of erection to the north-east of University College at a cost of \$1,100,000, the gift of the Hart Massey family. This vast structure will house with unparalleled completeness the various non-academic activities of student life: physical, literary, histrionic, and religious. Still more opulent in its appointments is the department of Household Science, situated on the corner of Avenue Road and Bloor Street, in a building as beautiful in its external architecture as it is complete in its internal arrangements. Mrs. Massey-Treble, who has fitted this golden slipper on the Cinderella of the sciences, is likewise endowing the department in a manner consistent with its home and the new dignity she has conferred upon it. To the south of this building lies the complex of Victoria College, the Methodist member of Confederation. The newest of

the buildings might have been removed bodily from Oxford. Its name, "Burwash Hall," commemorates the first chancellor under the new régime, to whose influence and statesmanship the federation movement owed much of its success. This hall is also the gift of the Hart Massey family. It is to be a residence for Victoria male students, the women being already provided for in Annesley Hall.

The University residences for men are north of Hoskin Avenue, and are also the gift, in part, of generous friends. North of this, on the corner of Bloor and Devonshire Place, is the stadium. On the opposite corner is the Meteorological Office, the first established in the British Empire outside the United Kingdom (1840). East of the stadium, on Bloor Street, is McMaster Hall, the Baptist University of Ontario, which, after years of affiliation with the state institution, got an independent charter about twenty years ago and has been doing steady and successful work in its own field ever since. It has secured twenty-five acres north of the city and is preparing to move to the new site.

Trinity College, the Anglican representative which entered federation a few years ago, has already sold its grounds on Queen Street West and will presently build on its destined site south of McMaster Hall. Ten years ago these grounds, now almost completely covered with buildings, were used by the faculty as a golf-course, so rapid has been the development of the University.

But one building remains to be mentioned, the most interesting of them all. This is the University Museum, of which at present only the west wing is finished, on Bloor Street, east of McMaster Hall. It is to be completed ultimately by adding the front on Bloor Street and an eastern wing on Avenue Road, opposite the Department of Household Science and Annesley Hall. The museum owes much to private benefactions and is partly supported by the Province. It contains a great variety of collections and is admirably arranged to show the evolution in the progress of civilization. Egyptian and American antiquities are especially well represented. Lovers of the red man should not fail to see the Paul Peel collection of paintings in the west hall of the main building. To members of the Twelfth International Geological Congress, for whom this sketch was originally written, the main interest, of course, will be in the mineralogical and geological or paleontological specimens.

Members who take an interest in the flora of Toronto and its vicinity will find an article on that subject also. It may be added here for their benefit that the Department of Botany and the Faculty of Forestry have their home together on the east side of the Queen's park, on the south corner of Grosvenor Street. The park itself has very beautiful flowerbeds, but the most charming sights of this kind are to be seen in some of the private gardens of Rosedale, on the slopes in the neighbourhood of the new Government House.

If the flowers of Toronto have grown more beautiful, the trees have degenerated sadly. Umbrageous groves of oak, beech and maple, diversified by occasional clumps of towering pine, seem to have characterized the scene—

“When wild in woods the noble savage ran.”

Many noble elm-trees were scattered through the city fifty years ago, and a few still survive. One splendid specimen is to be seen east of the Queen's Park, and just north of Wellesley Street. The pines do not seem to be able to endure civilization any better than the noble savage himself. The new tree surgery, or rather dentistry, is being applied to a number of the survivors of the forest, with what success remains to be seen. The favourite imported tree for shading purposes was the horse-chestnut, which, had it been planted regularly, as in Bushy Park, near Richmond, would have made the University Avenue one of the sights of America. But the effort was made to imitate nature, for the avenue was laid out in the days of the romantic movement, which in this case had a far from romantic result. The hatred of trees which was a heritage of the early settlers survived in Toronto till quite recently. In the University grounds the trees are labelled with their scientific names, as in Boston. May the fragrance of flowers and the beauty of trees combine with other pleasant memories in the minds of our visitors, as typical of Toronto, the “place of meetings”!

SOME TORONTO STATISTICS.

Area of city, 1913, 33.75 square miles. Total park area, 1912, 1,605 acres; 1913, 1,743 acres.

Population, 488,000 (estimate of city statistician). Death-rate, 12.8 per 1,000 (estimate of city statistician).

Number of buildings erected in 1912, 10,217; estimated value, \$27,400,000.

Assessment of city, 1913, \$436,000,000; tax-rate, 19½ mills.

Net debt of city, 1913, \$33,000,000. Revenue, 1912, \$8,500,000.

Miles of streets, 1912, 413; 1913, 509. Miles of side-walks, 1912, 561; 1913, 610. Miles of sewers, 1912, 336; 1913, 360. Miles of water mains, 1912, 434; 1913, 458. Miles of gas mains, 1912, 456; 1913, 473.

Miles of street railway, 1912, 107; 1913, 114. Total revenue from street railway since 1891 (to 1911), \$6,339,000. Revenue from street railway (exclusive of taxes), 1912, \$890,000. Passengers carried, 1911, 121,000,000; 1912, 135,786,000.

Attendance at Exhibition, 1912, 962,000; 1913, 1,009,000.

Hydro-Electric meters in use, 1913, 18,000, with 15,500 horse-power.

Clearing House returns, 1911, \$1,852,000,000; 1912, \$2,170,000,000.

Custom House returns, 1911: Imports, \$100,000,000; Duty, \$17,800,000. 1912: Imports, \$120,000,000; Duty, \$20,261,000.

Total number of police, 588.

Total number of firemen, 336. Total loss on fires, 1912, \$1,113,000.

Number of tavern licenses limited to 110; fee, \$1,600; shop licenses, 50; fee, \$1,600.

Number of volumes in city libraries, 180,000; in University and Law libraries, 250,000.

Number of automobiles in Ontario (Provincial fee, \$4), 24,500.

Number of births, 1912, 11,100; marriages, 6,153; deaths, 6,313.

